

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 05093 150816Z
ACTION EA-06

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 5093

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, KS, US
SUBJ: FAREWELL CALL ON PRESIDENT PARK

1. I HAVE JUST COMPLETED MY ROUND OF OFFICIAL FAREWELL CALLS WITH MEETING WITH PRESIDENT PARK AFTERNOON JUNE 15. LIKE ALL OTHERS, PRESIDENT PARK EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE IN THE STRENGTH OF US-KOREAN RELATIONSHIP AND HIS SENSE THAT RELATIONS ARE ON THE MEND AFTER SOME DIFFICULT YEARS.

2. PRESIDENT PARK STRESSED THAT THE SURVIVAL OF KOREA DEPENDED UPON A STRONG ALLIANCE WITH THE UNITED STATES AND LIKEWISE THAT THE US IN ITS OWN INTERESTS HAD AN IMPORTANT STAKE IN KOREA'S SURVIVAL. HE SAID THAT HE EXPECTS RELATIONSHIP TO EXPAND AND GROW CLOSER IN THE YEARS AHEAD, PARTICULARLY IN ECONOMIC AREA. ALTHOUGH DIFFERENCES ARE BOUND TO OCCUR AS THEY MUST BETWEEN PARTNERS, IN OUR MUTUAL INTEREST WE MUST MOVE TO SOLVE THEM RAPIDLY ON THE BASIS OF MUTUALITY.

3. PRESIDENT PARK WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO EXPRESS HIS PERSONAL CONFIDENCE IN THE STRENGTH OF OUR COMMITMENT TO KOREA, STATING THAT HE WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED BY THE EXPRESSIONS OF FRIENDSHIP AND SUPPORT BY NATIONAL SECURITY
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ADVISED BRZEZINSKI AND BY BRZEZINSKI'S FRANK DISCUSSIONS OF HIS TRIP TO CHINA.

4. I REAFFIRMED MY OWN CONFIDENCE IN THE STRENGTH AND FUTURE OF US-KOREAN RELATIONSHIP AND CITED FOR THE PRESIDENT RECENT EVIDENCE OF CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR OUR COMMITMENT TO KOREA. I URGED, AT THE SAME TIME, THAT WE NOT

LIVE ON THE BASIS OF THE PAST BUT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE
DYNAMICS IN BOTH COUNTRIES AND MAKE THE NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS
IN OUR RELATIONSHIP.
SNEIDER

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